

Application Serial No: 10/528754

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: April 17, 2008

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 14, 2008. Claim 1 is amended editorially and is supported, for example, in the specification on page 16, line 23-page 17, line 5. No new matter is added. Claims 1-5 and 7 are pending.

§103 Rejections:

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7 are rejected as being unpatentable over Ide (WO 99/06877 equivalent to US Patent No. 6,707,515) in view of Fukutani (US Patent No. 5,264,952). This rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 is directed to a composite display unit that requires, among other features, having a first display element and a second display element that is provided overlapping the first display element, the composite display unit being operable by both an AC supply and a cell. The AC supply enables display at least by the first display element, and the cell enables display only by the second element.

The combination of Ide and Fukutani does not teach or suggest these features. Ide is directed to a liquid crystal display with a first liquid crystal cell 16 and a second liquid crystal 18 that are interpreted as the first display element and the second display element, respectively, of claim 1. However, nowhere does Ide teach or suggest that its liquid crystal display device is operable by both an AC power supply and a cell or that the AC supply enables display at least by the first liquid crystal cell (16) and the cell enables display only by the second liquid crystal cell (18), as required by the first display element and the second display element of claim 1. Fukutani does not overcome these deficiencies of Ide. Fukutani is directed to a two celled color liquid crystal display device, but nowhere does Fukutani teach or suggest a composite display unit being operable by both an AC supply and a cell or that the AC supply enables display at least by the first display element, and the cell enables display only by the second element. For at least these reasons claim 1 is not suggested by the combination of Ide and Fukutani. Claims 3-5 and 7 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons. Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner's interpretation of element 14 of Ide. However, that issue is moot in view of other deficiencies of the rejection.

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Claim 2 is rejected as being unpatentable over Ide in view of Fukutani and further in view of Okumura (US Patent No. 6,008,871). This rejection is traversed. Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons described above. Applicants do not concede the correctness of this rejection.

Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-5 and 7 are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455-3804.



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Respectfully submitted,

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